

CIA to Fund K-School Project

Terms of \$400K Grant Made Public In Novel Arrangement

By NOAM S. COHEN

The Central Intelligence Agency will fund a \$400,000 Kennedy School of Government research project to assess how policy makers use the agency's intelligence information, the school announced yesterday.

The three-year long project, organized by faculty members Warren Professor of History Ernest May and Dillon Professor of Government Richard Neustadt and K-School Lecturer Gregory F. Treverton, is being called a major change in CIA-university relations, because the research will be made public and the intelligence agency will be identified as the funder of the project.

"The funding is totally above board and the results will be unclassified," Kennedy School Dean Graham T. Allison '62 said last night. Public acknowledgement of funding and unclassified results are "unprecedented [for the CIA], but a necessary condition for University research," the dean said.

In recent years President Bok and other academics have expressed concern over the ethics of scholars agreeing to not disclose their CIA funding and allowing the agency to make changes in manuscripts. According to Kennedy school offi-

cials Bok and other top University administrators had no misgivings about the recently finalized contract with the agency.

Under the terms of this grant, the project will fund the publication of case studies and the training for senior CIA analysts. The grant also will be used to pay for a CIA analyst to become a research associate at Harvard this January.

Kennedy School officials said the school negotiated with the CIA for more than a year to convince the agency to break with its normal policy of keeping all research contracts and their results secret. The agency approved the Harvard contract on a "non-precedent" basis, officials said.

Openness the Issue

"In the negotiations [openness] has been one of the toughest issues," said Associate Dean Peter Zimmerman, who will help administer the program. "It is harder to deal with this policy because Harvard has an invariable policy. Eighty percent of the discussions with the CIA were about openness."

Under the terms of the agreement, which will be inaugurated at a Washington, D.C. dinner later this month, for two weeks each year

Kennedy school faculty will hold "executive training sessions," for senior CIA analysts. The rest of the grant will support the creation of case studies.

Neustadt said he and May will publish the research in a book. Neustadt said he expects to study such recent foreign policy intelligence activities as those in the Philippines and in Iran. The former aide to President Harry S. Truman said he did not think the research would be completed in three years and that the arrangement with the CIA may need to be extended.

"We have hopes that over a long period of time we will learn enough and get enough case material declassified to sharply illustrate very simple questions" about how policy-makers use CIA fact gathering, said Neustadt.

As an example, the professor pointed to a famous incident during the Korean War, where a military strategist ignored the advice of his intelligence officers.

"It led to the longest retreat in American military history," Neustadt said.

"Without some people on the inside saying 'help these people because they will help the government,' we (continued on page 6)

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will never get enough material we need to understand the process," Neustadt said.

In recent years, Harvard and the agency have clashed over traditional

restrictions placed on research funded by CIA grants. These restrictions include pre-publication review of books and a requirement that contracts must remain secret.

In January 1986 Albertson Professor of Middle Eastern Studies Nadav Safran resigned as director of Harvard's Center for Middle Eastern Studies after his acceptance of more than \$150,000 in CIA grants became public. In one of the contracts, Safran agreed to give the agency pre-publication review and the right to censor his work, and agreed to keep the contract secret.

Soon after the uproar about the Safran disclosures, Deputy Director for Intelligence Robert M. Gates gave a speech at the K-School indicating that the agency had to be more accommodating of academic rules, like Harvard's, which require public disclosure of research funding. He said that it would be up to individual scholars whether CIA funding would

be publicly acknowledged.

Allison said the K-School's contract was a natural progression from Gates' accommodating language in that 1986 speech.

"It is an encouraging sign that Gates came here to take one step and now we have taken another," Allison said.

According to organizers of the Kennedy School program, negotiations began with Gates during his February, 1986 visit.

Prompted by the Safran case, President Bok wrote an open letter to the Harvard community in November of that year, saying that professors had to disclose whether a work of scholarship was subject to pre-publication review.

According to Neustadt Bok approved the agreement and "didn't think that it was a turn-around" from his earlier statements.

Bok could not be reached for comment.

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